LIBRARY

HEA... RARY

THINGOE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

WEST SUFFOLK.

R E P O R T

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the Year

1944

ROBERT H. CLAYTON, M.B., B.S.,B.Hy.,D.P.H.

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health for the Rural District of Thingoe in the County of West Suffolk for the year ending 31st December, 1944.

----------o O o----------

Public Health Offices,
Westgate House,
Bury St. Edmund's.

July, 1945.

To:-

The Chairman and Members of the
Rural District Council of Thingoe.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Herewith I beg to submit for your favourable consideration, my ninth Annual Report as Medical Officer of Health, being for the year ended 31st December, 1944.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

ROBERT H. CLAYTON,

M.B., B.S., B.Hy., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.

Also Medical Officer of Health, Newmarket Urban, Cosford, Mildenhall and Thedwastre Rural Districts and Assistant County Medical Officer of Health, West Suffolk.

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR. A.E.Ford, M.S.I.A.,Diploma R.S.I., also Building Surveyor, Petroleum and Explosives Officer.

SANITARY INSPECTOR. S.M.Casson, A.R.San.I., Cert.S.I.B. M.S.I.A.,Meat and Other Foods certificate R.S.I., throughout the year, as in 1942 and 1943, a prisoner of war.

SECTION A.

Opposite are General Statistics and Extracts from Vital Statistics for the nine years during which I have been Medical Officer of Health. It will be noted that during this time the population of Thingoe has increased by 1,720 from 15,240 to 16,960, but as the total births have exceeded the total deaths by 461 only this represents an influx of 1,259.

The number of inhabited houses has increased by 786 from 4,020 to 4,806. As the number of Council Houses has been increased by 237 there have been 549 additional private houses tenanted. The average number of persons per house has fallen from 3.8 to 3.5. The average density in 1939 in all rural districts (as quoted in the "Hobhouse" Report, para. 19) was 3.4 persons per house - which was also the Thingoe figure.

There has been a 51% increase in the Rateable Value to £51, 637 from £34, 082. and a 47% increase in the Penny Rate Product to £229 from £156.

The total number of Live Births, 2,373, is 461 in excess of the total number of Deaths, 1,912.

91 infants under one year have died during these nine years, a rate per thousand live births of 38.3. It will be noted that the Infantile Mortality Rate has shown an increase during the five war years as compared with the previous four years.

The number of illegitimate births has increased greatly, the percentage in the four years previous to the war being 4.7%, whereas during the five war years the percentage was 8.5% - there is an even greater percentage in the last two years, (11.7%).

On page 3 is a table giving the causes and the numbers of deaths in the various age groups, which records inter alia no deaths from maternal causes, 36 deaths from cancer, 1 death from whooping cough, no deaths from measles and two deaths from diarrhoea under two years.

The following table shows the total deaths at the various age groups for the past nine years, the percentage of the total deaths for each age group being indicated. Most of the deaths under one year occur because of birth conditions and therefore take place in the first month of life. From the table it can be deduced that the percentage of deaths between one month and age 45 years is only 11% of the total.

	Under 1	1-5	5-15	15-25	25-45	45-65	65 +	= Total
1944	20	6	3	3	12	49	141	234
1943	10	4	3	3	11	42	150	223
1942	15	4	7	7	13	37	127	210
1941	13	7	5	7	12	37	149	230
1940	14	2	2	7	12	53	159	249
1939	5	5	3	6	15	49	123	206
1938	4	2	1	8	11	35	131	192
1937	5	3	4	6	9	41	116	184
1936	5	4	-	6	13	40	116	184
	91	37	28	53	108	383	1,212	1,912
% of Total Deaths	4.7	1.9	1.4	2.7	5.6	20.3	63.4	

SECTION A.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

1. GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area - 106,500 acres.

	1944	1943	1942	1941	1940	1939	1938	1937	1936
Registrar General's estimate of the resident population, mid-year	16,960	17,420	17,220	17,250	16,310	(a)15,370 (b)15,860	15,470	15,560	15,240
Inhabited houses at end of year according to rate book	4,806	4,820	4,814	4,954	4,974	4,683	4,463	4,074	4,020
Average no. of persons per house	3.5	3.6	3.6	3.5	3.3	3.4	3.5	3.8	3.8
Rateable value	£51,637	£52,971	£51,034	£49,943	£53,231	£43,798	£42,877	£37,521	£34,082
Sum represented by Penny Rate.	£229	£225	£220	£223	£230	£194	£167	£170	£156

2. EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR.

		1944	1943	1942	1941	1940	1939	1938	1937	1936
Live Births. Legitimate -	Male	154	132	137	149	113	145	100	97	104
	Female	141	139	132	134	133	103	88	117	86
	Total	295	271	269	283	246	248	188	214	190
Illegitimate -	Male	19	15	10	12	8	5	8	4	7
	Female	21	20	7	15	1	6	2	4	5
	Total	40	35	17	27	9	11	10	8	12
Stillbirths. Legitimate -	Male	6	5	5	1	3	3	7	3	6
	Female	2	1	4	3	5	5	1	4	2
	Total	8	6	9	4	8	8	8	7	8
Illegitimate -	Male	2	NIL	NIL	4	NIL	NIL	1	NIL	NIL
	Female	1	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	2	NIL
	Total	3	NIL	NIL	4	NIL	NIL	1	2	NIL
Deaths.	Male	123	119	111	118	126	109	101	94	103
	Female	111	104	99	112	123	97	91	90	81
	Total	234	223	210	230	249	206	192	184	184
Birth Rate.	Thingoe:	19.8	17.6	16.6	17.	15.5	16.6	12.8	14.5	13.3
	England & Wales:	17.6	16.5	15.8	14.2	14.6	15.	15.1	14.7	14.8
Stillbirth Rate per 1,000 live & stillbirths.	Thingoe:	31.8	19.2	30.5	25.2	31.4	30	43.5	39	38.1
Death Rate.	Thingoe (crude):	13.8	12.8	12.2	13.3	15.3	13	12.4	12.1	12.1
	England & Wales:	11.6	12.1	11.6	12.9	14.3	12.1	11.6	12.4	12.1
Deaths of Infants under 1 year.		20	10	15	13	14	5	4	5	5
Death Rate of Infants under 1 year. All Infants per 1,000 live birth:-	Thingoe:	59.7	32.7	52.4	46	51	19.3	20.2	19	24.8
	England & Wales:	46	49	49	59	55	50	53	53	59.
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate births:-	Thingoe:	61	33.2	52	42.4	52.8	20.2	16.	14	26.3
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate births:-	Thingoe:	50	28.6	58.8	44.4	NIL	NIL	100	250	NIL

Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2018 with funding from
Wellcome Library

https://archive.org/details/b30183819

Below is a table giving the causes and the number of deaths occurring at the various age groups. The totals correspond with the Registrar General's figures.

HEADING.	CAUSES OF DEATHS.	Deaths at the Sub-joined ages of "RESIDENTS" whether occurring in or beyond the District.															
		Under 1 year.		1 and under 5		5 and under 15		15 and under 25		25 and under 45		45 and under 65.		65 and upwards		TOTAL Registrar General's figures.	
		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
4.	Whooping Cough.	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
6.	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	2	2	-	1	3	6
7.	Other forms of Tuberculosis	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
9.	Influenza.	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	3	-
13.	Cancer buccal cavity & oesophagus (m) uterus (f)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	2
15.	Cancer of breast.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	-	1	-	4
16.	Cancer of all other sites	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	7	5	6	10	13	16
17.	Diabetes.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	1	3
18.	Intra-cranial vascular lesions.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	9	5	9
19.	Heart Disease.	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	7	4	29	29	38	34
20.	Other Diseases of Circulatory System.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	2	4	2
21.	Bronchitis.	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	2	2	5	2
22.	Pneumonia.	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	3	4	5
23.	Other Respiratory Diseases.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	3	-	4	1
24.	Ulceration of the stomach or duodenum.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	2	-
25.	Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
27.	Other digestive Diseases.	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	3	1
28.	Nephritis.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	3	1	3	3	6	5
31.	Premature Births.	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2
32.	Congenital malformations, birth injury, infantile diseases	2	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	3
33.	Suicide.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	2	-
34.	Road Traffic Accidents.	-	-	1	-	3	-	-	-	-	1	3	-	2	-	9	1
35.	Other violent causes.	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	1	1	3	2
36.	All Other causes.	2	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	2	8	5	12	10
	TOTAL. Males.	11		4		3		2		2		30		71		123	
	Females.		9		2		-		1		10		19		70		111

SECTION B

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

(a) LABORATORY FACILITIES. The Emergency Public Health Laboratory at Cambridge provide these facilities for a lump sum, which covers also any specimens examined in emergency by the West Suffolk General Hospital.

(b) AMBULANCE FACILITIES. The Red Cross Society's ambulances in Bury St. Edmund's serve Thingoe for general and maternity cases. There is co-ordination between the Red Cross ambulances in surrounding districts, e.g., Newmarket, Brandon and Sudbury, so that the district still has facilities available even when the Bury St. Edmund's Red Cross ambulances are already engaged upon cases. Throughout 1944 the Civil Defence ambulances were available for the transport of scabies and other cases not deemed suitable for transport by Red Cross ambulance. Now that the Civil Defence Services have been disbanded, new arrangements for these extraneous cases are required and the Council are awaiting a conference to discuss this question with all the Councils and Ambulances Services throughout the County.

(c) NURSING IN THE HOME. The Local Nursing Associations which are financed partly by contributory scheme, partly by voluntary contributions, and partly by County Council grants, carry out this work through their nurses, who are residing in the villages of Ampton, Barrow, Bradfield St. George, Hengrave, Lt. Fakenham, Stanton and Whepstead, whilst some parishes on the periphery are served by nurses residing at Bury St. Edmund's, Stowlangtoft, Hinderclay and Wickhambrook.

(d) CLINICS & TREATMENT CENTRES. The County Council during the year took steps by posters and other ways, to publish the addresses and times of the various clinics and treatment centres, which are available to the inhabitants of Thingoe.

(e) HOSPITALS. The District is exceptionally well served for general hospital facilities by the West Suffolk General Hospital. This Hospital also has a certain number of maternity beds available, but they, together with the maternity beds available at St. Mary's Hospital, Bury St. Edmund's, are not adequate maternity accommodation for the District

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

1. (i) WATER. The Rural Water Supplies and Sewerage Act, 1944, section 3, places an obligation on the Council to give a piped water supply to every house, providing it can be done at a reasonable cost. The Council have had a water scheme prepared and submitted to them by W. E. Blizard, B.Sc., M.Inst. C.E., M.Inst.W.E., F.R.San.I., A.M.T.P.I., which incorporated suggestions contained in a Geological Survey prepared by Mr. R. C. S. Walters of Messrs. Herbert Lapworth Partners.

This very comprehensive scheme is to supply Thingoe and the neighbouring Authority, Thedwastre, as a joint scheme - it incorporates a reservoir at Depden, water towers at Cargate, Stanton, Risby and Elmswell, and borings at Rushbrooke, Ixworth and Risby. Trunk water mains are to be spaced roughly about 2 miles apart throughout the district, the areas between are

to be supplied by smaller diameter pipes as may be required - some 191 miles of mains being required. A provisional estimate of the cost based on 1939 prices is £352,700.

It is not deemed possible to exploit the existing schemes in the proposed Comprehensive Scheme.

This Comprehensive Scheme is a most pretentious project for the two Districts and represents a very real attempt to remove all difficulties of water supply throughout the area.

That such difficulties exist was made abundantly clear during 1944 when wells failed in the following 16 parishes (Ampton, Bardwell, Barrow, Bradfield St. George, Chevington, Denham, Great Saxham, Hargrave, Hawstead, Hopton, Horringer, Nowton, Pakenham, Risby, Rougham, and Whepstead), necessitating the provision of tanks to supply water from the Public Schemes.

The following water improvements and repairs were made during 1944:-

New services from piped supplies ..	7
Pump repaired	1
New private bores sunk	2
Storage tanks cleaned	2
Well heads repaired	3

5.24% of the houses in Thingoe are on a piped water supply, a further 9.05% are within 200 feet of standpipes, as under:-

Parish	Number of Houses on Piped Supply	Within 200 feet of Standpipes
Barrow	32	95
Bradfield Combust	18	15
Denham	4	7
Great Barton	24	-
" Saxham	14	16
" Whelnetham	18	64
Ingham	24	28
Ixworth	68	168
Little Whelnetham	10	8
Rougham	16	-
Stanningfield	22	24
Whepstead	2	10
Total Houses	252	435

18 samples were bacteriologically examined from the Council's piped water supplies - all were very satisfactory except one sample from the Ingham supply which was reported upon as suspicious.

22 further samples taken from 19 other sources for bacteriological examination gave the following results:-

3 Springs	(1 satisfactory, 2 very unsatisfactory)
12 Wells	(1 satisfactory, 7 unsatisfactory, 4 very unsatisfactory)
4 Bores	(4 satisfactory)

Warning notices were issued as necessary.

Reports on Chemical Examination of four public piped water supplies are on page 6

Norfolk & Suffolk County Laboratories,
Redwell Street, Norwich.
31st October, 1944.

CERTIFICATE OF ANALYSIS OF WATER

Nos. 109143 - VV

4 samples received from Thingoe R.D.C. per Inspector A. E. Ford.

Mark or Seal Public supplies as under

	Ammonia		Chlorine in Chlorides	Nitrogen as Nitrates	Nitrites	Hardness			Physical Characters
	Free & Saline	Albuminoid				Total	Permanent		
1. Bradfield St. George ex house tap	Trace	Trace	2.4	nil	nil	25.8°		Iron in solution 0.002	Turbid & rusty
2. Gt. Welnetham ex street hydrant	nil	Trace	2.1	nil	nil	21°			Faint rusty sediment
3. Ixworth ex hydrant	nil	nil	2.9	nil	nil	23.6°			Clear
4. Barrow ex hydrant	nil	nil	2.2	nil	nil	24°			Clear

Remarks:- All these supplies are of exceptional organic purity and free from the slightest sign of pollution. All the clear waters are eminently suitable for drinking purposes. To be equally suitable the rusty supply of Bradfield only needs treatment and filtration to remove the separated iron oxycarbonate

(ii) DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE. There is virtually no public drainage and sewerage in Thingoe, but on the Council's instruction the Council's Water and Sewerage Consultant is carrying out Sewage Disposal Surveys under the Rural Water Supplies and Sewerage Act, 1944, in nine parishes or groups of parishes as under:-

Barrow
Hopton
Ixworth
Honington
Pakenham
Risby
Bardwell, Stanton & Hepworth
Fornham St. Martin, Hengrave, Flempton & Lackford
Great & Little Welnetham & Stanningfield

During 1944 at the instigation of the officials there were 4 new drains laid, two drains cleared, three drains repaired, one sewer repaired and six cesspools emptied.

2. RIVERS AND STREAMS. The condition of rivers and streams throughout the year was satisfactory due to the work which had been undertaken by the drainage boards as part of their agricultural policy.

3. (i) CLOSET ACCOMMODATION. Advantage has been taken of the preliminary housing survey (as recommended in the "Hobhouse" Report) to assess the closet accommodation of the District. This has proved the existence of an unsatisfactory high proportion of vault closets.

During 1944 seven vault closets were converted to pail closets, and four new pail closets were erected as replacements.

(ii) PUBLIC CLEANSING. The proposed scavenging scheme had again to be postponed during 1944 owing to the demands made upon the Council's workmen and vehicles by, inter alia, water carting, Council house management and evacuation.

(iii) SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA. Mr. Ford has supplied the following tabular statement:-

	Number of Inspections	No. of defects found
Housing. (Routine inspections	119	303
(Revisits	72	
(Overcrowding	6	6
"Hobhouse" Survey		
Houses Inspected	1,760	
Revisits (with Committee)	847	
New Buildings	18	4
Cesspools.	18	6
Sanitary Accommodation	26	12
Refuse tips and dumps	36	7
Suspected verminous premises	10	3
Infectious Diseases & Disinfection	39	
Camps and Hostels	12	4
Tents, vans and sheds	10	6
Factories & Bakehouses	13	3
Shops	15	-
Other Foods	4	-
Butcher's premises	3	1
Slaughter Houses	1	
Sources of water supply	179	21
Drains and Ditches	44	26
Samples taken (water)	40	
(milk)	2	
Dairies & Cowsheds	84	92
Revisits	7	
Miscellaneous visits	108	
	3,473	

Factory Act. 13 visits were paid to factories and 3 defects remedied (1 insanitary condition of floor and 2 requiring limewashing)

(iv) SHOPS AND OFFICES

No action was taken as the result of 15 visits.

(v) CAMPING SITES

No licences were issued for sites.

(vi) SMOKE ABATEMENT)
) NIL
(vii) SWIMMING BATHS & POOLS)

(viii) ERADICATION OF BED BUGS

Disinfectation of 8 private dwelling houses was carried out by using "Fuminol" applied by spray by the Council's Officer.

4. SCHOOLS. 6 visits to schools were made.

SECTION D

HOUSING

1. (1) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under the Public Health or Housing Acts). 119
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 191
"Hobhouse" Survey. Houses visited 1,760
Visits and revisits made 2,607
(2) Dwellinghouses recorded under the Housing (Consolidated) Regulations, 1925. 55

Number of dwellinghouses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation. 64

2. Remedy of Defects during the year without service of formal notice

Number of defective dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers 21

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year.

(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.

(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs Nil

(2) Dwellinghouses which were rendered fit after service of formal notice Nil

(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

(1) Dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied Nil

(2) Dwellinghouses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notice (a) By Owners Nil

(c) Proceedings under Sections 11, 13, and 25 of the Housing Act, 1936, or under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.

Demolition Orders made	29
Undertakings accepted not to relet	5
" not to relet cancelled	3

4. Housing Act, 1936 - Part IV - Overcrowding.

(a) (i) No. of dwellings overcrowded at the end of year	8
(ii) No. of families dwelling therein	8
(iii) No. of persons dwelling therein	74
(b) New cases of overcrowding reported in 1944	3
(c) (i) Cases of overcrowding relieved	3
(ii) No. of persons concerned in such cases	23
(d) Particulars of any cases in which dwellinghouses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority having taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding.	Nil

(e) The Council possess 408 Council Houses.

Paragraph 107 of the Third Report of the Rural Housing Sub-Committee of the Central Housing Advisory Committee states "We think that Councils should insist on a full and informative account of housing conditions in the district appearing in every Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health".

Between 1919 and 1936 Thingoe built 115 Council Houses, making with the 56 which had been built by the late Brandon Rural District, in the part of their district now in Thingoe, a total of 171 houses.

On taking up my appointment as Medical Officer of Health for Thingoe on July 1st 1936 the urgency of the housing position was so apparent that in 9 weeks, on September 4th 1936, I presented a Special Report to the Council pointing out that Grants under the Housing Act 1930 were guaranteed only on houses completed by the Local Authority on, or before, March 31st 1938. This report dealt only with the problem of Unfit Houses - in it I wrote "I am bringing to their (the Council's) notice only the worst of a mediocre aggregate". An Official Representation was given in the form of an Addendum to the Special Report, representing that 346 houses were unfit for habitation and could not at a reasonable expense be rendered so fit.

The reception given to this Special Report was not encouraging, it being considered by the Council to be revolutionary, but the subsequent fate of these 346 houses seems to afford ample justification. Their fate has been:-

192	Demolition Orders Made.
100	Undertakings given not to relet.
4	Undertakings accepted as to future users.
3	Burnt out
15	Reconditioned with grant from Housing (Rural Workers) (Act.)
19	Reconditioned by owners
13	Repairs carried out
346	

Attention to unfit houses was not the only housing activity of 1936, for shortly after my arrival a complete survey for Overcrowding involving measurement of every room in the 3,300 Working Class Houses in the District was carried out. Table One illustrates the progress made:-

Table 1

	New Cases of Overcrowding Discovered	Cases of Overcrowding Relieved
1936	119	33
1937	7	33
1938	9	42
1939	7	20
1940	Nil	4
1941	3	1
1942	3	8
1943	2	1
1944	3	3
	153	145

This table in addition to showing that only 8 cases of Overcrowding remained in the District at the end of 1944, shows also that within three years of the survey, that is to the outbreak of war, the cases of Overcrowding had been reduced to 14 only.

The concomitant progress in dealing with unfit houses can be gauged from Table Two:-

Table 2

	Houses Represented	Demolition orders made by Council	Undertakings accepted not to relet	Undertakings accepted to Repair in a Specified Time	Actual Demolished
1936	346	Nil	Nil	Nil	5
1937	38	161	80	10	2
1938	39	33	11	Nil	18
1939	10	22 (clearance order)	-	Nil	42
TOTAL	433	216	91	10	67

As a result of the Council's work on Overcrowding and Unfit Houses, the Council in the three years following my original Special Report increased their rate of provision of Council Houses to over 1000% - 214 Council Houses being provided in the three years as opposed to 115 provided in the previous 17 years.

Nor was attention to Overcrowding and Unfit Houses the only activity. Paragraph 124 of the Third Report (Hobhouse) states:- "there has never been a thorough survey of housing conditions in this country on a national basis". Although this is so, I always had in mind that sooner or later we should be required to give an exact report on all houses in the District. In anticipation of this I directed Mr. Ford and his assistants to concentrate as far as possible on housing inspection and to record (in great detail) as many houses as possible under the Housing Consolidation Regulations 1925. These efforts are indicated in Table 3.

Table 3

	Total Houses Inspected.	Houses Recorded Under Housing Consol. Reg.1925	Houses assessed as requiring repairs	Houses remedied without Formal Notice	Statutory Notices issued to repair	Repaired after Formal Notice: By Owners	Repaired after Formal Notice: By L.A.	Under Publ Health Ac: Notices issued	Under Publ Health Ac: Hous re-pair
1936	583	105	90	64	22	9	Nil	2	1
1937	630	313	262	64	22	9	Nil	Nil	2
1938	1234	143	155	82	31	36	Nil	Nil	2
1939	768	134	138	77	27	38	Nil	2	-
	3215	695	645	287	102	92	Nil	4	5

The figure 3215 total inspections, which corresponds very closely with the number of Working Class houses in the District as assessed in the Overcrowding Survey, is almost all representative of work carried out in the very short time between my appointment (July 1st 1936) and the outbreak of War (September 3rd 1939). Housing Inspections in the District until the outbreak of War were being carried out at a rate equal at least to inspecting all the houses in the District once in four years. This rate can be compared with the statements in Section 132 of the Third Report (Hobhouse) "It appears that the length of time taken by a local Authority to get round all the houses in the district may range from five to about seventy years".

and
"We recommend that Local Authorities should so arrange their inspections as to cover all working class houses in their district once in every five years, and that the Ministry should take steps to ensure that this is done, making use, if necessary, of their powers under the statutory provision",

The table quoted above shows that in Thingoe, from the time of my appointment, the desired rate of inspection has been maintained.

Ascertainment and knowledge of the housing conditions in Thingoe has far outstripped the alleviation of such conditions. This fact has been made abundantly clear to those who, throughout the years from 1936 have been obliged to live in ascertained unfit houses awaiting the building of Council Houses as replacement habitations - it was also known to many unfortunate evacuees who found themselves billeted in unfit or condemned houses. The future may allow them to derive some satisfaction ,for evacuation is likely to prove itself eventually the greatest ever stimulus to housing and public health conscience.

In June 1944 the Council adopted suggestions as to how the survey, as recommended in the Third Hobhouse Report, should be carried out in Thingoe. These suggestions included a quick survey by the Sanitary Inspector and myself to assess provisionally the category of every house in the district, followed by visits by a Housing Sub-Committee, consisting of Mr. H. Brown, (Chairman of the Public Health and Housing Committee), Colonel H. E. Hambro, (Chairman of the Council), Major Beauford, (Vice-Chairman of the Council), Mr. R. Barber-Starkey, Sir Christopher Magnay, and the local councillor for each parish as it was being inspected by the above Committee.

This Sub-Committee inspects every house which the officials consider the Council may wish to place in category 4 or category 5, that is to say, houses for reconditioning, which will necessitate grants from public money, and houses for demolition or closure, which will require the provision of new houses at the public expense.

In 1936 my housing standard did not meet with the Council's general acceptance, but throughout the present survey there has been no material difference in the standard suggested by the officials and that adopted by the Sub-Committee.

The Sub-Committee have, up to the time of writing this report, inspected the category 4 and 5 houses in 40 parishes, where the houses are now classified as in table A, page 12, and the remaining parishes in Thingoe have had the officials' preliminary survey, which has given results as in table B, page 12.

These results are likely to approximate very closely to the decisions which will be arrived at by the Sub-Committee when they visit the parishes. It is therefore anticipated that the final figures for the whole of Thingoe will approximate

Category 1	1,238.
Category 2	1,623.
Category 3	447.
Category 4	803.
Category 5	659.

Table A.

	Category 1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	TOTAL
Ampton	15	13	1	2	1	32
Barrow	51	62	22	22	79	236
Bradfield St. Clare	15	13	5	4	8	45
Bradfield Combust	12	8	16	2	-	38
Bradfield St. George	24	39	6	14	24	107
Brockley	19	24	4	1	16	64
Chedburgh	9	17	-	4	6	36
Chevington	24	22	21	30	22	119
Denham	10	3	8	17	6	44
Flempton	10	9	3	4	10	36
Fornham All Saints	18	26	7	16	12	79
Fornham St. Genevieve	-	13	-	3	-	16
Fornham St. Martin	36	40	1	14	3	94
Hardwicke	2	1	-	-	-	3
Hargrave	18	19	4	20	12	73
Hengrave	23	18	4	13	1	59
Hawstead	22	26	9	11	16	84
Honington	26	31	3	-	17	77
Horringer	27	66	17	36	6	152
Gt. Barton	76	100	29	19	19	243
Gt. Livermere	24	14	1	9	13	61
Gt. Saxham	14	21	-	10	4	49
Gt. Whelnetham	26	40	12	8	31	117
Ickworth	2	10	2	4	1	19
Ixworth	53	104	36	19	56	268
Lackford	5	30	4	4	-	43
Lt. Livermere	13	-	5	4	11	33
Lt. Saxham	7	18	1	4	4	34
Lt. Whelnetham	18	10	4	1	10	43
Nowton	8	37	2	6	2	55
Pakenham	44	53	23	29	66	215
Rede	8	8	-	17	11	44
Risby	18	55	2	32	11	118
Rougham	43	38	61	29	25	196
Rushbrooke	13	15	8	-	-	36
Stanningfield	14	14	16	7	20	71
Timworth	29	-	-	2	-	31
Troston	26	9	4	8	9	56
Westley	1	10	5	6	2	24
Whepstead	36	46	15	8	19	124
TOTALS	839	1082	361	439	553	3274

Table B.

	1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	TOTAL
Barningham	37	48	-	30	2	117
Barnham	10	44	14	33	7	108
Bardwell	40	75	7	47	17	186
Coney Weston	13	14	3	17	1	48
Culford	24	22	11	31		88
Euston	9	31	7	16	4	67
Fakenham	5	20	2	11	2	40
Hepworth	58	34	4	10	13	119
Hopton	32	51	3	26	25	137
Ixworth Thorpe	2	6	6	13	1	28
Ingham	31	14	10	20	2	77
Knettishall	1	4		8		13
Market Weston	30	15	3	7	8	63
Stanton	54	93	5	53	12	217
Sapiston	4	20	4	13	6	47
Thelnetham	41	27	-	9	6	83
Wordwell	1	2	-	7	-	10
West Stow	7	21	7	13	-	48
TOTALS	399	541	86	364	106	1496

The Council hope to carry out a fifth of their Five-year Post War Housing Programme in the first year. They have decided against Temporary Houses, but have ordered 75 of the Swedish Houses. Already authority to tender has been received for 76 of the 198 houses in the First-year programme, which number is made up as follows:-

Bardwell	30	houses	Rede	10	houses
Barningham	12	"	Risby	12	"
Barrow & Denham	32	"	Rougham	12	"
Bradfield St. George	12	"	Stanningfield	12	"
Great Barton	6	"	Troston	6	"
Hargrave	12	"	Welnetham	36	"
Nowton	6	"			

SECTION E

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

(a) MILK SUPPLY

The number of Registered Cowkeepers in the District at the end of 1944 was 173 (wholesale producers 78, retailers 95. 17 of these producers have 18 Tuberculin Tested herds, and 25 producers have 27 Accredited herds). The number of visits to cowsheds and dairies was 84, and the defects found 92. During the year 5 additional cowsheds were brought into use from existing buildings, and in 2 cases new water bores were sunk to provide adequate water for dairy purposes. In 3 other cases floor and wall repairs were carried out, and in 10 cases methods and uncleanliness were improved.

Local Authorities interest and progress in this work is hindered by the intention to transfer those functions to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. The Appointed Day has not yet been announced, it is to be hoped that the transition period will quickly be terminated.

(b) MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

Centralised slaughtering has taken regular killings out of the District.

The following food was condemned:-

Fevered Pork	1602	lbs.
Tubercular Pork	277	"
Putrified Beef	115	"
" Mutton	60	"
" Fish	95	"
	2,149	"

(c) ADULTERATION ETC.

(d) CHEMICAL & BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION

(e) NUTRITION

(f) SHELL-FISH (Molluscan)

(g) WATER CRESS

No Change

SECTION F.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS & OTHER DISEASES

ALL NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (other than Tuberculosis) DURING THE YEAR 1944

	Age in years													Total Cases Notified	Admitted to Hospital	Deaths
	-1	1	2	3	4	5	6-10	11-15	16-20	21-35	36-45	45-64	65& Over			
Diphtheria							3			1				4	4	
Dysentery		3	3	2	3	2	3	1	2	2	1		1	23		
Erysipelas											2		2	4		
Malaria										1				1		
Measles				1		1	2	2	2			1		10	1	
Ophthalmia Neon	3													3		
Pneumonia							2	1	1		3		2	9		9
Puerperal Fever										1				1		
Scarlet Fever			1		2		8	7	2			1		21	8	
Whooping Cough	3	4	3	7	3	5	12			1		1		39		
TOTAL:-	8	7	7	10	8	8	30	11	7	6	6	3	5	115	13	9
Infective Jaundice								9	5	7	1			22		

The number of notifiable diseases (other than Tuberculosis) in 1944 was 115 - as increase of 23 on the previous year. The 23 cases of Dysentery were all of a mild nature, and all contained in one outbreak.

The cases of Diphtheria were all four in unimmunised persons, three being newly arrived in the District.

162 children (127 age 0-4 years and 35 age 5-14 years) completed the course of Diphtheria Immunisation during 1944. By the end of the year it was estimated that 81% of children under 5 years of age, and 97% of children between 5 and 15 years of age had completed the Diphtheria Immunisation course.

149 cases of Scabies were treated during 1944. This was a decrease of 22 on the 1943 figure.

T U B E R C U L O S I S

New Cases and Mortality during 1944

Age Periods	NEW CASES Respiratory M.	NEW CASES Respiratory F.	NEW CASES Non-Respiratory M.	NEW CASES Non-Respiratory F.	DEATHS Respiratory M.	DEATHS Respiratory F.	DEATHS Non-Respiratory M.	DEATHS Non-Respiratory F.
0 -4	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
5-14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15-24	3	1	-	1	1	-	-	-
25-34	-	2	-	-	1	1	-	-
35-44	-	-	1	1	-	2	-	-
45-55	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
55-64	-	1	-	-	1	1	-	-
65 & Over	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
	4	4	2	3	3	6	1	-

46 cases remained on the Tuberculosis Register at the end of the year, Respiratory Male 15, Female 18, and Non-Respiratory Male 9, Female 4.